



# **Accessibility Annual Public Status Update 2016/2017**

A Summary of the Municipality of Kincardine's  
accomplishments towards inclusion in 2016 & 2017

Approved: December 6, 2017 by Resolution #12/06/17-13

This document is available in alternate formats upon request.  
Please contact the Clerk's Department at 519-396-3468 ext. 7111.

## **Annual Accessibility Plan**

As per Part 1, Section 4 (3) (a) of Ontario Regulation 191/11, the Integrated Accessibility Standards, the Municipality of Kincardine must prepare an Annual Public Status Report on the progress of measures taken to implement the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan, including steps taken to comply with this Regulation.

The purpose of this Status Report is to make the public aware of the Municipality of Kincardine's progress made in 2016 & 2017 with the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan adopted in 2013 to outline the Municipality's strategy to prevent and remove barriers and meet the requirements under the above noted Regulation.

## **Annual Accessibility Plan**

The Municipality of Kincardine filed its Accessibility Compliance Report in December 2015 with the Accessibility Directorate of Ontario under the Ministry of Economic Development Trade and Employment Services.

In March 2016 the Accessibility Directorate of Ontario conducted a file review on the Municipality and we provided them with additional information. They completed their file review without additional information required and it was concluded on April 21, 2016.

## **The Municipality of Kincardine's Commitment Statement**

The Municipality of Kincardine is committed to providing excellent service for both the public and employees by delivering programs and services that are efficient, effective, responsive and accessible. Accessible services meet people's needs while protecting the dignity and independence of people with disabilities. When services are accessible, people can easily navigate into and around buildings and offices, receive information in a format that works for them, and work in an accommodating place.

The Municipality will promote accessibility by ensuring that compliance is met for all regulations made under the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005*. Timelines for compliance vary. In order to ensure that timelines are met, the Municipality will establish, implement and maintain a Multi-Year Accessibility Plan. The plan will

outline the Municipality's strategy to prevent and remove barriers to people with disabilities.

## **Catalogue of Issues**

The Terms of Reference for the Accessibility Advisory Committee requires that they “Catalogue and prioritize accessibility issues related to existing municipal facilities” and consult with the various municipal departments on their upcoming plans to improve accessibility in our municipality. This task is performed annually by the Committee and compiled into the Catalogue of Issues (attached as Schedule “A”).

## **Continuous Achievements in Accessibility**

- The Municipality focuses on removing barriers which may exist in municipal building and facilities, while ensuring that new buildings, leases and renovations do not create barriers.
- The Municipality adopted the Accessibility Standards for Customer Service Policy GG.3.8 and the Integrated Accessibility Standards Policy GG.3.9 which outline what the Municipality will do to comply with the Regulations and what customers and employees can expect.
- The Municipality continues to meet and review accessibility initiatives.
- The Municipality continues to comply with the requirements of the Customer Service Standards including the ongoing training of staff, volunteers and third parties who interact on behalf of the Municipality on an ongoing basis.
- Notifying the public of accommodations for job applicants with disabilities in its recruitment process.
- Continue to review customer feedback and take appropriate action.

## **Highlights of 2016 & 2017**

### **General Requirements**

- Completed work with the Lions Club for the accessible washrooms at the Splash Pad using the Enabling Accessibility Grant applied for and obtained in 2015.
- Worked with Kincardine & District Secondary School to complete and expand the StopGap Ramps Program for local businesses.
- Developed a workshop aimed at educating scooter and electric wheelchair owners on safe operations and followed up with an educational poster.
- Focused on increasing awareness of accessibility for Municipal events.
- Investigated Charging Stations for mobility devices.
- Continued to have consideration for the FADS when reviewing and developing municipal and private projects.
- Completed Arts Centre Renovations to include Washroom Facilities with accessible features.
- Continued to recognize and ensure accessibility is considered with any projects or new initiatives within our facilities and programs, including the possible construction of the Whitney Crawford Community Centre.
- Planned and began initial work on the renovations to the Medical Clinic.

### **Information and Communications**

- Ensured documents were available in an accessible format upon request.
- New content placed on the website was WAGG 2.0 Level AA.
- Continued conversion of necessary historic documents to meet new accessibility requirements and continued developing all new documents in accessible formats.
- Ongoing Emergency Planning for people with disabilities.
- Updated Emergency Plan into an accessible format for future use.
- Temporary service disruptions in the Municipality were posted on the municipal website.

## **Employment**

- Accessibility accommodations were available throughout the recruitment process and employment life cycle, as Per Policy GG. 3.9 Integrated Accessibility Standards, including:
  - Job advertisements specify that accommodation is available for job applicants with disabilities.
  - Policy in place for employees returning to work after being away with a disability.
  - Policy in place to enhance workplace emergency responses through individualized emergency response information and assistance as required.
  - Policy in place that takes into account the accessibility needs of employees with disabilities during the performance process.
  - Relevant staff are trained on the Human Rights Code, Integrated Accessibility Standard, and Customer Service Standard as it pertains to persons with disabilities.

## **Transportation Standards**

- Through taxi cab licensing and renewal process the Municipality ensured that taxicabs do not charge a higher fare or additional fee to persons with disabilities; do not charge a fee for mobility assistive devices; and have appropriate information displayed on the rear bumper and business cards available in an accessible format.

## **Design of Public Spaces**

- Mobi Mats installed at Station Beach with funding from Bruce Power and Kincardine Rotary Club in partnership with the Kincardine & District Agricultural Society and Grey Bruce Community Foundation.
- Purchased new playground equipment for Macpherson Park and Tiverton Park with assistance of Accessibility Advisory Committee.
- Reviewed plans for Stonehaven Park and Rotary Music Park.

- Completed work with the Lions Club for the accessible outdoor eating space at the Splash Pad using the Enabling Accessibility Grant applied for and obtained in 2015.
- Completed the repair or development of following sidewalks to accessible standards: Trillium Court to Sutton Park Mall, St. Albert St. and Fraser Street, Queen Street Bridge.
- Completed downtown parking lot restructuring to accessible standards.
- Designed Kincardine to Inverhuron Provincial Park Trail.
- Designed and worked on Davidson Centre Entranceway including sidewalks and crosswalk.
- Designed Gary Street sidewalk.
- Crosswalk upgraded at Huron Terrace and Harbour Street.

## **Customer Service Standards & Training**

- Continued to ensure that relevant staff are trained on the Human Rights Code, Integrated Accessibility Standard, and Customer Service Standard as it pertains to persons with disabilities.

## **Availability of Plan and Status Report**

The Multi-Year Accessibility Plan and Annual Accessibility Status Reports can be accessed through the Municipality of Kincardine's website: [www.kincardine.net](http://www.kincardine.net)

## **Contact Information**

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Accessible formats and communication supports available upon request.